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Docket No.: A0345-0022

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of: Heinz Fretz et al. Confirmation No.: N/A

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned (This is a U.S. national stage patent application based on PCT/EP04/006471 filed June 16, 2004, claiming priority to PCT/EP03/006616 filed June 24, 2003).

Art Unit: N/A

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 23, 2005

New York, NY
December 23, 2005

For: PYRAZOLIDINEDIONE DERIVATIVES**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 27 of this paper.